



Thomas Montgomery and family papers.

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Nov^r 28th 1866.

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Dear Bro. Sandy.

You can scarcely imagine how glad I was to receive your welcome letter. ^{off 20th inst} It was so replete with information such as I desired and contained so many expressions of regard, and good wishes, that I must tender you my sincere thanks. I hope and trust that all my fairy visions of bliss will yet be realized. At present I have every reason to believe they will.

I received another charming letter this morning. I can go ahead now with so much more certainty, than I could before I saw my lady-love. Oh, yes. I had indeed a happy time, and was very loth to leave. Now I look forward to increased happiness, with intense delight. All my expectations were more than realized. I was very glad to know you had arrived at home in safety, but I knew it before I received your letter, for I saw last week the one you sent the Miss. Hendricks. I think it was a very good letter, and I know they were delighted to receive it, for they thought you would have forgotten them. They also received the music the same day and played it while I was there. Mrs. H & Mary are teaching school in the New Meth. Col. Church now. Numbers of the soldiers attend also.

I spent a pleasant afternoon there last Sunday, in company with Ph. Burdick. Poor St. Merriam has gone to Bayou Sara with C. D. I got out of going nicely by having poor old tenets ^{Raggs} for going. A Deputy agent of Freedman's Bureau was shot dead. Mr. Allen is now boarding over there and is going in strong.

Lt. Sprochnle was married last week in New Orleans and has not yet returned, I have not seen him.

All the other officers are quite well, St. Vincent's girl played off on him and got married to another man, but not until they had ceased corresponding. I witnessed two marriages this week, both in the Meth. Church, which was crowded to excess. One last Sunday night and one last night. The weather since my return has been delightful. To day it is raining.

We have battalion drill here now every day.

Gen. Sheridan was up here in my absence, inspecting the Arsenal. Yes I am back in my old tent as before. Everything is just as it was. My orderly who was badly stabbed is doing well and will soon recover I hope. I bought a singing book and am practising a little in it (Golden Wreath) I have also started a scrap-book and am filling it up rapidly, with clippings poetry, notes, songs, music &c. I procured Miss Parnell's photograph to send home as I supposed you all would want to see it. I would not send her yours at present except through ^{Miss Turnnell} me.

I am writing to her today and will send your love as you desired. She wishes to send the same to you & all, Andy.

I hope you will get going to school this winter, and will learn much. As I am not writing a letter to Bro. J.C. I will here thank him for his letter and do heartily congratulate him on the distinguished honor of being Worthy Chief Templar of a Lodge of Good Templars. I hope the lodge is composed of men and women good, true and influential. When I had that honor conferred on me, I felt proud of it, and with good reason too; and yet look back with satisfaction to be thought worthy while so young, of such a position.

I think you are keeping a great number of stock, it will keep you busy. I suppose you are glad that threshing and other fall work is over. You need a house the worse kind, but I think it is foolish to build it there, however I suppose father knows best. I have now written quite a long letter and will close. Be sure to write often and give all the current news, and I will do the same. My respects to all the friends & neighbors, and with love to Papa, I do yourself & Olivia I remain your aff. Serv. Thomas Montgomery